

## A NEW SPECIES OF ALTERNARIA

L. L. HARTER

*Forsythia suspensa* Thunb. is not a native of the United States, but is an introduction from China. It is grown as an ornamental shrub in this country and is fairly common in the District of Columbia on government ground and in private gardens. The different species of *Forsythia* are very free from fungous diseases, *F. suspensa* being especially so.

On November 11, 1910, the writer collected the fungus described below on the leaves of many plants which were growing in a dense cluster on the Mall near Thirteenth Street and just south of the green houses belonging to the United States Department of Agriculture. Hundreds of plants were grown in the cluster where the specimens were collected and probably seventy-five per cent. of the leaves were affected. From the general character of its growth the fungus is strongly suspected as being a parasite.

The spots caused by the fungus occur indiscriminately over the surface of the leaf. They are subcircular in outline, gray to grayish-brown in color, and surrounded by dark-brown or dead areas. One or more concentric rings are formed about the grayish spots, within which are collected minute black tufts irregularly distributed and visible to the naked eye. The concentric rings, characteristic of some species of this genus, occur only on the upper surface, while the tufts are present on both the upper and lower surfaces.

### *Alternaria Forsythiae* sp. nov.

Caespitulis amphigenis, numerosis, plerumque epiphyllis; maculis subcircularibus, griseis vel griseolo-brunneis, concentricis zonatis 2-10 mm. diameter; hyphis fasciculatis, erectis, septatis, tortuosis, olivaceis; conidiis, acrogenis, clavatis, olivaceo-brunneis, catenulatis, muriformibus, ad septa constrictis  $18-60 \times 10-16.5 \mu$ , isthmis  $5-15 \times 3.5 \mu$ .

HABITAT: Living leaves of *Forsythia suspensa* Thunb.

TYPE LOCALITY: On the Mall of the government grounds, District of Columbia.

Type specimens are deposited in the pathological herbarium, Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C.